

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**1. A slide fastener comprising:**

a first strip of material and a second strip of material;

a first fastening device extending along and affixed to a longitudinally extending edge of said first strip of material and a second fastening device extending along and affixed to a longitudinally extending edge of said second strip of material;

a slider mounted for longitudinal sliding in a path along said first and second edges of said first and second strips of material to control closing and opening of the first and second fastening devices by, respectively, causing a locking of said first fastening device to said second fastening devices in a closing direction and an unlocking of said first fastening device from said second fastening device in an opening direction;

a blocking member directly or indirectly affixed to one of said first and second strips whereby, when said first and second strips are interconnected by said first and second fastening devices, said blocking member extends in a blocking position across said path of said slider to interfere with movement of said slider in said opening direction;

said blocking member further comprising a retracting device to cause automatic retraction of said blocking member as said slider moves and engages said blocking member in said closing direction, whereby said blocking member comprises a construction to cause automatic return of said blocking member to said blocking position after said slider moves beyond said blocking member in said closing direction.

2. A slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein:

said retracting device comprises a ramp inclined with respect to said path of said slider in said closing direction, whereby said slider is engagable with said inclined ramp to move said blocking member toward a retracted position, and whereby said

blocking member returns to said blocking position after said slider moves beyond said blocking member in said closing direction.

3. A slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein:

said blocking member has a form of a plate, whereby, in said blocking position, said plate extends in a plane substantially parallel to a plane of said first and second strips of material;

said plate element comprises a blocking edge, said blocking edge extending substantially perpendicular to said path of said slider.

4. A slide fastener according to claim 3, wherein:

said blocking member comprises an edge that is inclined with respect to said path of said slider.

5. A slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein:

said blocking member is directly or indirectly connected to one of said first and second strips of material along a length of a lateral edge, substantially parallel to said path of said slider.

6. A slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein:

said blocking member is assembled to a flexible panel with said one of said first and second strips by means of a common stitching.

7. A slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein:

said blocking member is made from semi-flexible material.

8. A slide fastener according to claim 4, wherein:

said blocking edge and/or said retracting edge is/are reinforced.

9. A slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein:
said fastening devices are made of a plastic material.